



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Claims Two Lives in Glenmora

RAPIDES PARISH- State Fire Marshal deputies continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding a residential structure fire that claimed the lives of a 75-year-old man and a 69-year-old woman.

On the morning of Thursday, March 7, the Spring Creek Volunteer Fire Department responded to a house fire in the 1500 block of Melder Road in Glenmora.

The bodies of the male and female victims were later located close to each other and just feet from the structure's only exit.

After assessing the scene, SFM investigators determined the fire originated near the south side of the home, toward the front, in close proximity to a travel trailer parked under a carport. Various types of lawn and mechanical equipment were also identified in this area.

While the exact cause of the fire remains undetermined at this time, investigators observed several electrical wires running through the structure and found there were two breaker panels running to the home and to the travel trailer. There were no working smoke alarms located in the home.

While investigators believe the victims are the couple that lived in the home together, official identifications and preliminary causes of death are pending an autopsy scheduled for today, Friday, March 8.

The State Fire Marshal's Office would like to urge Louisiana residents to follow safe electrical practices. That includes using extension cords only on a temporary basis, not overloading those extension cords and having a qualified electrician conduct any electrical work on your home.

Lastly, make sure your home has working smoke alarms. The SFM's Operation Save-A-Life partners with local fire departments and districts to provide free smoke alarms to families who are unable to obtain the life-saving devices on their own. Visit lasfm.org for more information on the program.

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